Pro Fair Trade, Nature and People

Annual report 2019-2020
The way EF and PFT work together

VTTV process

PFT became a member in 2012 and soon after developed their policy on responsible supply chains. Today, our partnership covers all four stages of the VTTV model.

**Values** – PFT and EF work together to disperse ownership of their Responsible Sourcing Guidelines across the company and their suppliers.

**Transparency** – EF supports PFT with their transparency commitments, especially within their smallholder palm oil supply chains in Ivory Coast. PFT has also developed their own traceability planform [iDiscover](#).

**Transformation** – EF supports PFT with transformation on the ground, principally with smallholders in Ivory Coast.

**Verification** – As a first stage EF is supporting PFT’s suppliers in Ivory Coast, meet and maintain RSPO requirements and where needed additional verification means shall be sought.
Our sourcing around the world

PFT’s Global Presence

Pro Fair Trade sources numerous products around the world – these being:
- Palm Oil
- Sunflower Oil
- Coconut Oil
- Groundnut Oil
- Safflower Oil
- Shea Butter

2019-2020 Priority

In 2019-2020 the workplan between EF & PFT focussed on Palm Oil, specifically in their Ivory Coast supply chains. The work focussed in on:

1. Technical support to palm oil suppliers in meeting and maintaining RSPO requirements
2. Rurality – together with Nestlé, Godiva and SIPEFCI supporting smallholder engagement, transformation and resilience
3. Communications – raising awareness raising of their transformative activities in the field.

2019-2020 Focus
Technical Support

Building Capacity

In 2019 and 2020 EF continued to support Pro Fair Trade’s Ivorian suppliers to maintain their RSPO certification and enhance their operational capacity through other activities.

2019

The key focus of activities were:

SIPEF-CI (Ottawa/Bolo/Okrouyo/Sikensi)
- RSPO Control Audit Preparation
- Steering Group Meetings
- Audit Participation

Achievement: RSPO Certification

2020

The key focus of activities were:

SIPEF-CI (Ottawa/Bolo/Okrouyo)
- RSPO Control Audit Preparation
- Steering Group Meetings
- Audit Participation
- GIS Mapping Training

Achievements
- RSPO Certification
- SIPEF-CI GIS team capacity enhanced

Adamaafrique
- RSPO Control Audit Preparation
- Steering Group Meetings
- Audit Participation

Achievement: RSPO Certification
Our Rurality Work

Rurality Project in Soubré, Ivory Coast (2019)

In Soubré, Pro Fair Trade together with Nestlé collaborates with EF and several of its partners (COOPAGRIS, COOPALM, SIPEF CI, ProFairTrade) to generate change at the palm oil farmer level and in the supply chain. Key objectives include creating better farming management methods and infrastructure through innovation and building stronger connections between farmers.

**Key achievements in 2019:**

- **Transparency** - SIPEFCI’s mill in Ottawa has reached 100% traceability to plantation. In total 4000 farmers, and 221 farms mapped by the Rurality and SIPEF-CI team.

- **Best Management Practice** - more than 200 farmers trained in BMP and better business practices, of which 84 farmers apply BMP consistently and regularly. 52,5 % average increase in productivity for farmers applying BMP

- **Reforestation** - Rurality has worked together with farmers on the establishment of tree nurseries. 2 tree nurseries established for 27.8 hectares for reforestation and agroforestry.
Rurality Project in Soubré, Ivory Coast (2020)

In Soubré, Pro Fair Trade, Nestlé and Godiva collaborate with EF and several of its partners (including COOPAGRIS, COOPALM, SIPEFCI, SODEFOR) to generate change in the palm oil and cocoa supply chain. With the focus on smallholders, key objectives is to improve farmer livelihoods in the entire region and ensure sustainable oil palm and cocoa production.

Key achievements in 2020:

- **Transparency**: mapping of 1269 oil palm smallholder farms around 2 mills (Ottawa 930 and Bolo 339)
- **Resilience of farmers**: Rurality led trainers training on farm business management 17 extensions workers for both SIPEFCI and two cooperatives in order to empower 3,353 oil palm growers on BMP and livelihoods diversification. In 2020, improved training reached 1,508 oil palm farmers (45% of all smallholder suppliers of Ottawa mill)
- **Forest protection**: Rurality raised awareness on forest preservation and rehabilitation and agroforestry on cocoa farms in six villages in the vicinity of forest reserves (Monts Kourabahi and Niégré); 188 farmers were reached and two local committees were set up to lead agroforestry, and forest rehabilitation and preservation activities.
SARA Agricultural Fair

In December 2019 EF together with Pro Fair Trade promoted the work to date and what has been achieved in Ivory Coast and how this is driving positive change in terms of best management practices (BMP within the company.

AIPH & RSPO

EF and Pro Fair Trade engaged in these palm oil stakeholder organisations to promote responsible practice in the sector in Ivory Coast.

Swiss Roundtable Network for Palm Oil

EF support PFT in discussions in this forum and raise awareness of transformation efforts within PFT supply chains and others to go beyond RSPO and meet Swiss market expectations on PO and in due course other vegetable oils.

Rurality Comms Piece on Soubre Landscape

EF published an article on impact achieved in Soubre Landscape and in oil palm and cocoa supply chains: https://www.earthworm.org/news-stories/protecting-forests-developing-responsible-products-ivory-coast
**Key Messages**

**Key successes**

- **Collaboration** – our work with Ivorian suppliers wasn’t in isolation, instead we worked with other EF members e.g. Nestlé and Godiva in implementing the Rurality programme to build resilience in our smallholder supply chains.

- **Boots on the ground** – strong engagement with Ivorian suppliers and smallholders to continue to raise awareness and better understand the challenges and opportunities to improve practice.

- **Maintaining & building on RSPO** – continuing to meet RSPO expectations has helped to maintain business links with downstream customers Responsible Sourcing Policies as well as building a based on which to further improve where needed.

**Challenges**

- **Capacity** – building strong capable teams is critical to maintaining certification and responsible sourcing expectations. This is a challenge we’re working on to internalise and ensure long-term resourcing.

- **Scaling up** – solutions will need to be identified to address environmental & social challenges for a broader reach within the Ivorian supply chains and landscapes in which they operate. 2020 has marked an important first steps towards a Landscape approach.

- **Balance** – finding a compromise between forest conservation goals, promotion of resilient smallholders and thriving communities is a fundamental challenge.

- **Prioritisation** – with our global presence and variety of products, but limited resources, ensure that we are addressing the most relevant challenges in our supply chains and receive support from other supply chain partners to share the load implementing best management practices.
Where we’re going

Goals for 2021

- Scale up smallholder resilience building within our Ivorian suppliers
- In addition to supporting our Palm Oil suppliers meeting RSPO expectations seek targeted verification of deforestation-free supply chains where needed
- Reengage activities in our products and supply chains e.g. Coconut & Sunflower.
- Innovate, collaborate, transform
“Scaling up our efforts to meet 2020 commitments”